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# Radio mean labeling of a graph

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## Abstract

A Radio Mean labeling of a connected graph  $G$  is a one to one map  $f$  from the vertex set  $V(G)$  to the set of natural numbers  $N$  such that for two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$ ,  $d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G)$ . The radio mean number of  $f$ ,  $rmn(f)$ , is the maximum number assigned to any vertex of  $G$ . The radio mean number of  $G$ ,  $rmn(G)$  is the minimum value of  $rmn(f)$  taken over all radio mean labelings  $f$  of  $G$ . In this paper we find the radio mean number of graphs with diameter three, lotus inside a circle, Helms and Sunflower graphs.

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**Keywords:** Radio labeling; Diameter; Wheel; Helms

## 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper we consider finite, simple, undirected and connected graphs.  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  respectively denote the vertex set and edge set of  $G$ . Also, for a graph  $G$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  denote the number of vertices and edges respectively. In 2001, Chartrand et al. [1] defined the concept of radio labeling of  $G$ . Radio labeling of graphs is motivated by restrictions inherent in assigning channel frequencies for radio transmitters [1]. Radio labeling behavior of several graphs are studied by Kchikech et al. [2,3], Khennoufa et al. [4], Liu et al. [5–9], Van den Heuvel et al. [10] and Zhang [11]. Motivated by the radio labeling we define radio mean labeling of  $G$ . A radio mean labeling is a one to one mapping  $f$  from  $V(G)$  to  $N$  satisfying the condition

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G) \quad (1.1)$$

for every  $u, v \in V(G)$ . The span of a labeling  $f$  is the maximum integer that  $f$  maps to a vertex of  $G$ . The radio mean number of  $G$ ,  $rmn(G)$  is the lowest span taken over all radio mean labelings of the graph  $G$ . The condition

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(1.1) is called radio mean condition. In this paper we determine the radio mean number of some graphs like graphs with diameter three, lotus inside a circle, gear graph, Helms and Sunflower graphs. Let  $x$  be any real number. Then  $\lceil x \rceil$  stands for smallest integer greater than or equal to  $x$ . Terms and definitions not defined here are followed from Harary [12] and Gallian [13].

## 2. Main results

Since any radio mean labeling  $f$  is one to one, it follows that  $rmn(G) \geq |V(G)|$ . Further if  $\text{diam}(G) = d$  and  $V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$ , then  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  defined by  $f(v_i) = d + i - 2, 1 \leq i \leq p$ , is a radio mean labeling and hence  $rmn(G) \leq p + d - 2$ . In particular for any graph with  $d = 2$ , we have  $rmn(G) = p$ . Now if  $G$  is any graph with diameter 3 and if  $(u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4)$  is a diametrical path then  $f$  defined by  $f(u_1) = 1, f(u_4) = 2, f(u_3) = 3$  and  $f(v)$  for remaining vertices are arbitrarily assigned the labels  $4, 5, \dots, p$ , then it can be easily verified that  $f$  is a radio mean labeling of  $G$  and hence  $rmn(G) = p$ . Hence the following problem naturally arises:

**Problem 2.1.** Characterize graphs  $G$  for which  $rmn(G) = p$ .

The following theorem gives another family of graphs  $G$  with  $rmn(G) = p$ .

The sunflower graph  $SF_n$  is obtained from a wheel with the central vertex  $v_0$  and the cycle  $C_n : v_1 v_2 \dots v_n v_1$  and additional vertices  $w_1 w_2 \dots w_n$  where  $w_i$  is joined by edges to  $v_i, v_{i+1}$  where  $v_{i+1}$  is taken modulo  $n$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** The radio mean number of the sunflower graph  $SF_n$  is its order.

**Proof.** For  $n \leq 5$ , since  $\text{diam}(SF_3) = 2$  and  $\text{diam}(SF_4) = \text{diam}(SF_5) = 3$ , the result follows. Assume  $n \geq 6$ . It is clear that  $\text{diam}(SF_n) = 4$ . Define the function  $f$  with co domain  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n + 1\}$  as follows:  $f(w_1) = 1, f(w_2) = n, f(w_3) = 2, f(w_i) = i - 1, 4 \leq i \leq n, f(v_0) = n + 1$  and  $f(v_i) = n + 1 + i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ . We must show that the radio mean condition

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 5 \quad (2.1)$$

for every pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  where  $u \neq v$ .

Now, if either  $f(u) \geq 6$  or  $f(v) \geq 6$ , then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence (2.1) trivially holds. Hence let  $1 \leq f(u), f(v) \leq 5$ . Clearly  $u, v \in \{w_1, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6\}$ . If  $u = w_i$  and  $v = w_j$  and  $|i - j| > 1$ , then  $d(u, v) = 3$  or  $4$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 2$ . Therefore (2.1) holds. If  $u = w_i, v = w_{i+1}$ , then  $d(u, v) = 2$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 3$ . Hence (2.1) holds.  $\square$

The Helm  $H_n$  is obtained from a wheel  $W_n$  by attaching a pendent edge at each vertex of the cycle  $C_n$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** The radio mean number of a Helm  $H_n$  is  $2n + 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $W_n = C_n + K_1$  where  $C_n$  is the cycle  $u_1 u_2 \dots u_n u_1$  and  $V(K_1) = \{u_0\}$ . Let  $w_i$  be the pendent vertex adjacent to  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Since  $\text{diam}(H_3) = 3$ , the result follows. Now let  $n \geq 4$ . Then  $\text{diam}(H_n) = 4$ . We define  $f$  on  $V$  as follows:  $f(w_i) = i$  for all  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $f(u_i) = n + 1 + i$  for all  $i$  with  $0 \leq i \leq n$ .

Since  $\text{diam}(H_n) = 4$ , to prove that  $f$  is a radio mean labeling, we need to prove that

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 5 \quad (2.2)$$

for every pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  where  $u \neq v$ .

If either  $f(u) \geq 6$  or  $f(v) \geq 6$ , then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence (2.2) trivially holds. Hence let  $1 \leq f(u), f(v) \leq 5$ . If  $n \geq 5$ , it follows that  $u, v \in \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5\}$ . If  $u = w_i, v = w_j$  and  $|i - j| > 1$ , then  $d(u, v) = 4$  and (2.2) holds. If  $u = w_i$  and  $v = w_{i+1}$ , then  $d(u, v) = 3$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 2$ . Hence (2.2) holds. Thus  $f$  is a radio mean labeling of  $H_n$ . If  $n = 4$ , then  $u, v \in \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, u_0\}$  and since  $f(u_0) = 5$ , the inequality (2.2) holds.  $\square$

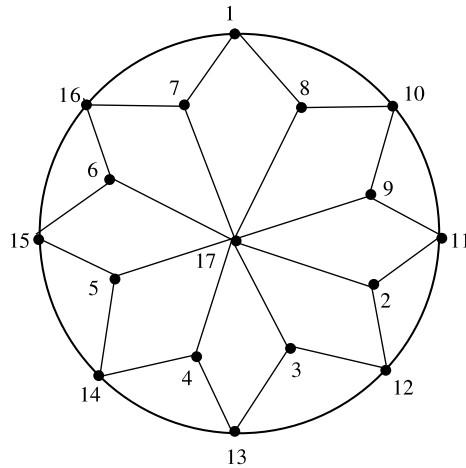


Fig. 1.

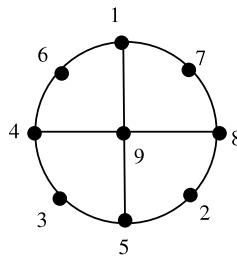


Fig. 2.

The graph lotus inside a circle  $LC_n$  is obtained from the cycle  $C_n : w_1 w_2 \dots w_n w_1$  and a star  $K_{1,n}$  with central vertex  $u$  and the end vertices  $u_1 u_2 \dots u_n$  by joining each  $u_i$  to  $w_i$  and  $w_{i+1(\text{mod } n)}$ .

**Theorem 2.3.**  $rmn(LC_n) = 2n + 1$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $3 \leq n \leq 7$ , then since  $\text{diam}(LC_n) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n=3,4 \\ 3 & \text{if } n=5,6,7 \end{cases}$ , the result follows. Let  $n \geq 8$ . Here  $\text{diam}(LC_n) = 4$ . We define an injective map  $f : V(LC_n) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, 2n + 1\}$  by  $f(u_i) = i + 1$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $f(w_{n-1}) = 1$ ,  $f(w_n) = n + 2$ ,  $f(w_i) = n + 2 + i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ ,  $f(u) = 2n + 1$ . Now it is enough to prove that

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 5 \quad (2.3)$$

for every pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  where  $u \neq v$ .

If either  $f(u) \geq 6$  or  $f(v) \geq 6$ , then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence (2.3) holds.

Let  $1 \leq f(u), f(v) \leq 5$ . If  $n \geq 5$ , it follows that  $u, v \in \{w_{n-1}, u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4\}$ . Clearly  $d(w_{n-1}, u_i) = 3$  where  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 2$ . Then (2.3) holds. Also  $d(u_i, u_j) = 2$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 3$ . Therefore (2.3) holds. Hence  $rmn(LC_n) = 2n + 1$ .  $\square$

**Illustration 2.1.** A radio mean labeling of  $LC_8$  with radio mean number 17 is given in Fig. 1.

The gear graph  $G_n$  is obtained from the wheel  $W_n$  by adding a vertex between every pair of adjacent vertices of the cycle  $C_n$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** The radio mean number of a gear graph  $G_n$  is  $2n + 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $W_n = C_n + K_1$  where  $C_n$  is the cycle  $v_1 v_2 \dots v_n v_1$  and  $V(K_1) = \{v\}$ . Let  $V(G_n) = V(W_n) \cup \{u_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and  $E(G_n) = E(W_n) \cup \{v_i u_i, u_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n-1\} \cup \{v_n u_n, u_n v_1\} - E(C_n)$ . Since  $\text{diam}(G_3) = 3$ , the result follows. For  $n = 4$ , the result follows from Fig. 2.

Assume  $n \geq 5$ . In this case, the diameter of  $G_n$  is 4. First consider the vertex  $u_1$  and assign the label 1 to it. Then move two steps on the rim in the clockwise direction and reach the vertex  $v_3$ . Assign the label 2 to  $v_3$ . Then move one step and reach the vertex  $v_4$ . Let it be labeled by 3. The remaining successive vertices of the rim are labeled 4, 5, 6, ... respectively. Note that  $v_1$  receives the label  $2n - 3$ . Finally assign the labels  $2n - 2$ ,  $2n - 1$ ,  $2n$  and  $2n + 1$  respectively to the vertices  $v_2$ ,  $u_2$ ,  $u_3$  and  $v$ .

Now we must check the radio mean condition

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 5 \quad (2.4)$$

for every pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  where  $u \neq v$ .

If either  $f(u) \geq 6$  or  $f(v) \geq 6$ , then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence (2.4) holds.

Let  $1 \leq f(u), f(v) \leq 5$ . If  $n \geq 5$ , it follows that  $u, v \in S = \{w_{n-1}, u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4\}$ . Let  $u = u_1$  and  $v$  be any other vertex in  $S$ , then  $d(u, v) = 3$  or 4. In this case  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 2$ . Hence (2.4) holds. If  $u, v \in \{v_4, u_4, v_5\}$  then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence the inequality (2.4) holds. Finally, consider  $u = v_3$  and  $v \in \{u_4, v_4, v_5\}$ . Here  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 3$  and  $d(u, v) = 2$  or 3. Thus (2.4) holds.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $G_{n,m}$  be a graph obtained by identifying any two vertices of the wheels  $W_n$  and  $W_m$ . Then

$$rmn(G_{n,m}) = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{if } m = n = 4 \text{ and any two rim vertices are identified} \\ m + n + 1 & \text{Otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Call the rim vertices of  $W_n$  by  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and that of  $W_m$  by  $v_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq m$ ) and  $u, v$  denote the central vertices of the respective wheels.

**Case 1.** Identify a rim vertex of one wheel and the central vertex of the other.

In this case  $\text{diam}(G_{n,m}) = 3$  and therefore the result follows.

**Case 2.** Identify the two central vertices.

Here,  $\text{diam}(G_{n,m}) = 2$ . Therefore, the result is true.

**Case 3.** Any two rim vertices are identified.

In this case if  $m = n = 3$  then  $\text{diam}(G_{n,m}) = 2$  and if  $m = 3$  or  $n = 3$  then the graph is of diameter 3. In both the cases, the result is obviously true. Now we assume that  $m \geq 4$  and  $n \geq 4$ . In this case  $\text{diam}(G) = 4$ . Without loss of generality assume  $n \leq m$ .

**Subcase 1.**  $m = 4$ .

Here  $n = 4$ . Here  $n = 4$ . In this case Fig. 3, shows that the vertex labels satisfy the radio mean condition. Therefore

$$rmn(G) \leq 10. \quad (2.5)$$

**Claim.**  $rmn(G_{n,m}) > 9$ .

Let  $u_1 u_2 u_3 u_4 u_1$  and  $v_1 v_2 v_3 u_4 v_1$  be the cycles of the two wheels. Take  $u_4 = v_1$ . Clearly 1 and 2 should be labeled to the vertices with a distance atleast 3. If  $f(u_1) = 1$  then  $f(v_3) = 2$ . In this case 3 should not be the label of any vertices. If  $f(u_2) = 1$  then  $f(v_2) = 2$ . This forces  $f(v_3) = 3$ . In this case 4 should not be a label of any vertices. Hence

$$rmn(G_{n,m}) > 9. \quad (2.6)$$

From Eqs. (2.5) and (2.6) the result follows.

**Subcase 2.**  $m \geq 5$ .

Let  $u_r = v_s$  be the identified vertex. Assign the label 1 to the vertex  $u_j$  with  $j \notin \{r+1, r-1\}$ . Then assign the label 2 to the vertex  $v_{s+1}$ . Now we move to the vertex  $v_{s+3}$ . Let it be labeled by 3. After that assign the labels

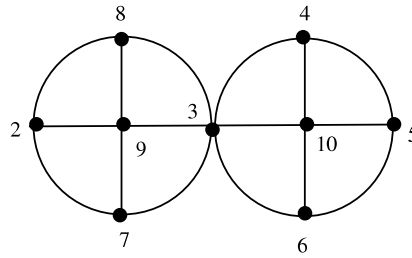


Fig. 3.

4, 5, ... consecutively to the rim vertices. Note that the last vertex in this sequence, that is,  $v_s$ , receives the label  $m$ . Then assign the next label  $m + 1$  to the vertex  $v_{s+2}$ . Now we move to the other wheel  $W_n$ . Label all the rim vertices of  $W_n$  except  $u_j$  and  $u_r$  (already  $u_j$  and  $u_r$  receive the labels 1 and  $m$  respectively) by the next available labels from  $\{m + 2, m + 3, \dots, m + n - 1\}$  in any order. Finally assign the labels  $m + n$  and  $m + n + 1$  to the central vertices of  $W_n$  and  $W_m$  respectively.

Now we must check the radio mean condition

$$d(u, v) + \left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 5 \quad (2.7)$$

for every pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  where  $u \neq v$ .

If either  $f(u) \geq 6$  or  $f(v) \geq 6$ , then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$  and hence (2.7) holds. Consider the case  $1 \leq f(u), f(v) \leq 5$ . If  $m \geq 6$ , then  $u, v \in S = \{u_j, v_{s+1}, v_{s+3}, v_{s+4}, v_{s+5}\}$ . Suppose  $u = u_j$  and  $v$  is any other vertex of  $S$  then  $d(u, v) = 3$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 2$ . Hence (2.7) holds. If  $u = v_{s+1}$  and  $v \in \{v_{s+3}, v_{s+4}, v_{s+5}\}$  then  $d(u, v) = 2$  and  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 3$ . Hence (2.7) holds. If  $u, v \in \{v_{s+3}, v_{s+4}, v_{s+5}\}$  then  $\left\lceil \frac{f(u) + f(v)}{2} \right\rceil \geq 4$ . Therefore (2.7) holds. In the case of  $m = 5$ ,  $f(v_s) = 5$  and  $u, v \in \{u_j, v_s, v_{s+1}, v_{s+3}, v_{s+4}\}$ . Here, it is easy to verify the inequality (2.7).

Hence  $rmn(G_{n,m}) = m + n + 1$ .  $\square$

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